

From: "Christine Kreuder Johnson" <ckjohnson@UCDAVIS.EDU>
Sent: 03/07/2018 11:19:49 AM (-08:00)
To: "Billy Karesh" <karesh@ecohealthalliance.org>; "Jonna Mazet"
Subject: Re: Request for meeting with Congressman Bera, Oct 23

REDACTED

Billy/Jonna,

Draft letter attached here with my edits – hoping to add a PREDICT success to that middle paragraph too – ideas/thoughts most appreciated!

/ckj

From: "Uyehara, Ryan" <Ryan.Uyehara@mail.house.gov>
Date: March 6, 2018 at 2:47:02 PM EST
To: "O'Quinn, Erin" <Erin.O'Quinn@mail.house.gov>, 'Brandon Minto' <bjminto@ucdavis.edu>
Subject: RE: Request for meeting with Congressman Bera, Oct 23

Thanks Erin.

Brandon, letter that we'll start circulating later this week is below. Any feedback/comments from Dr. Johnson would be greatly appreciated, especially as we reference PREDICT in the letter. Thanks so much!

Ryan

March XX, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education,
and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education
and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
And Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
And Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Cole and Rogers and Ranking Members DeLauro and Lowey,

We write to urge you to fully fund CDC and USAID activities that help nations monitor, detect, and respond to pandemic threats before they reach our shores.

As you know, in 2014, Congress appropriated over \$5 billion in emergency funding to respond to the Ebola epidemic that killed over 11,000 individuals worldwide. Approximately \$1 billion was allocated to the CDC and USAID to help developing countries prepare for and respond to future epidemics. According to news reports, these funds are about to run out, even as the work is far from over. The CDC is slated to end its work in 39 out of the 49 countries it operates in, while USAID may wind down half of their operations in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

We need to ensure that before we start withdrawing from these countries, they have the capacity and know how to effectively detect, contain, and handle infectious disease outbreaks. This should be a gradual and

rational process, not a sudden drawdown. Ensuring that CDC and USAID can undertake this transition is critical to keeping America safe.

The 2014 emergency funding allowed CDC to help build surveillance systems in host countries from scratch by training frontline health workers, laboratory technicians, and disease detectives in the monitoring, detection, and attack of dangerous new diseases, while also upgrading outdated laboratories.

USAID's role is equally important. USAID's PREDICT program assists countries in detecting and dealing with emerging animal-borne diseases. 75% of new or emerging diseases that affect humans originate in animals, including HIV/AIDs, SARS, H1N1, and Ebola. By strengthening country capacity at all levels to deal with these kinds of diseases, USAID plays a critical part in preventing diseases from spreading in humans.

This work has already had a tremendous impact. In Cameroon, the CDC helped the government drop its response time in stopping outbreaks from eight weeks to just 24 hours. But their work is far from over. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, the CDC helped build an emergency operations center to respond to new threats, but must still train country staff and help its government implement procedures to handle emerging diseases. USAID has

Reducing funding now would halt efforts there and across the world. In our interconnected world, a pathogen can leap from a remote village to a major international city in less than 48 hours. Capable and quick response nearest to its source is critical. As one public health expert noted, withdrawing funding now would be like building a fire station without the trained firefighters. The costs of an outbreak would be extremely high, as our expensive response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak showed. In addition to the emergency supplemental funding passed by Congress, the United States committed some 3000 servicemembers to help contain that outbreak.

To prevent another outbreak and to continue CDC and USAID's current activities, we therefore request \$172.5 million for USAID's Emerging Pandemic Threats account and \$208.2 million for CDC's Division of Global Health Protection account.

As members of Congress, we have no higher duty than ensuring the safety of our fellow Americans. We thank you in advance for considering our request and your help in advancing this solemn duty.

Sincerely,

From: O'Quinn, Erin
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 1:03 PM
To: 'Brandon Minto' <bjminto@ucdavis.edu>
Cc: Uyehara, Ryan <Ryan.Uyehara@mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for meeting with Congressman Bera, Oct 23

Hi Brandon!

Hope you're doing well. I wanted to share an appropriations letter my boss is working on related to the PREDICT program. I really enjoyed meeting with Dr. Johnson in the Fall, so just wanted to reach out to see if she had updates, feedback or suggestions before we started circulating the letter later this week. I know I have her card somewhere in the abyss of my card drawer- would you be able to connect us again? And copying Ryan in here to share the current draft letter.

Thanks,
Erin